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Japanese-American Awarded Silver Star Visits At Rohwer

T. Sgt. Bert Tanaka who is back in the United States after nearly a year's service in Italy, is visiting his brother, Dr. Roy Tanaka, and his sister, Mrs. James Tanaka, at the Rohwer Relocation Center.

Sgt Tanaka has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, and also wears the Unit Citation of the famous 100th Battalion and the Combat Rifleman's Badge, which is awarded only after combat service.

The citation for the Silver Star describes how Tanaka and two comrades crawled forward under heavy fire to attack a German dugout, and it tells how the Sergeant, with a sub-machine gun and hand grenades, killed or captured Germans defending the dugout.

Sgt. Tanaka landed in Italy at Salerno Beach, fought at Anzio and took part in the capture of the city of Leghorn. While in Leghorn, Sgt. Tanaka was interviewed in an official army broadcast to the United States which described the fighting in Italy.

The 100th Battalion, in which Spt. Tanaka takes obvious pride, is composed entirely of soldiers of Japacese descent and is frequently mentioned as one of the most degrated units in the United States army in Europe.